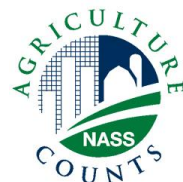


OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

Released: September 19, 2011
Week ending: September 18, 2011
Volume: 25-11

Phone: 503-326-2131
Toll Free: 1-800-338-2157
Email: nass-or@nass.usda.gov
Internet: www.nass.usda.gov/or

Weather: The week had slightly cooler temperatures as forecasted, plus a little precipitation in some areas. These conditions helped the containment of the fires reported last week, but there was mention of a 2000 acre fire that started this past week in Harney County. The average temperature throughout the State was 62.3 degrees, 3.05 degrees above normal, but about 7 degrees lower than last week. Low temperatures ranged from 28 degrees in Agency Lake to 53 degrees in Portland. High temperatures ranged from 65 degrees in Crescent City to 96 degrees in Moro. Twenty-two of the forty-three stations reported measurable precipitation. Astoria reported the most with 1.66 inches, followed by Tillamook with 0.86 inches. Seventeen of the stations were under 0.10 inches.

Field Crops: Most, not all, small grains were harvested. Red clover harvest was nearing completion in the Willamette Valley. Carrots and garlic for seed in central Oregon were being planted following harvested wheat. Potatoes were harvested in the Willamette Valley. Ground preparation for fall seeded crops was underway around the State, despite varying levels of soil moisture. Grass seed planting began in Washington County.

Vegetables: Some vegetables were doing great, while others continued to struggle. Vegetable harvest got busy with some good quality vegetables showing up at roadside stands and

local farmers markets. Irrigation continued. Sweet corn harvest in Washington County continued.

Fruits and Nuts: Central Oregon wine grapes were behind in development. Lane County reported that powdery mildew on grapes had looked pretty bad so far. Vineyards in Josephine County reported an exceptional crop with ripening weather that included no rain. Cool weather the past week did not help ripen wine grapes in Washington County. Blueberries continued to do well. Blackberries continued to produce. Apples, pears, and hazelnuts were about three weeks behind. In Jackson County, pear harvest was still quite busy, and early apples were being harvested. Apples were ripening in Lane County. Plum harvest continued in Yamhill County with apple harvest also underway. Peaches were about done. Hazelnuts were beginning to drop on well prepared surfaces in Washington County. Walnuts were sizing and appeared to be plentiful.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Greenhouses were still busy getting fall vegetable and decorative starts ready and out for sale. Nurseries were busy with plant care and irrigation.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Livestock were in good shape thanks to irrigation and supplemental feeding. Spring calves were weaned, and cows were expected to start fall calving soon. Farmers and ranchers were enjoying the Pendleton Round-Up.

Soil Moisture - Week Ending 09/18/11

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	31	37	32	0
Subsoil	22	40	38	0

Crop Condition - Week Ending 09/18/11

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Spring wheat	0	0	11	65	24
Corn	0	0	25	74	1
Range and pasture	20	30	22	25	3

Crop Progress - Week Ending 09/18/11

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Alfalfa hay, third cutting	67	60	100	91
Winter wheat planted	8	2	16	19
Spring wheat harvested	94	90	100	100
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.7	6.9	5.5	6.4

CLACKAMAS: Another nice week with a good half inch of rain by the weekend. Red clover seed mostly harvested, yields were good. Straw was all shredded or baled and ground work had begun. Cows and spring calves weaned. Fall calves due any day now.

COOS/CURRY: Temperatures trended towards more fall-like conditions this week, with fog on the Coast and bottoms. Low temperatures ranged 1.25 below the 5-year average in Brookings (southern Curry) to over 5 degrees below the 5-year average in Bandon (Coos County). High temperatures through the week were near the 5-year average in both Bandon, and Brookings (southern Curry). Inland temperatures only a few miles from the coast were 10 to 15 degrees higher. There was only a trace of precipitation in Brookings for the period. The grazing conditions continued fair to good for the most part. Continued fall like mornings with marginal conditions for cutting/baling regular grass in some areas and persistent fog & low cloud in the mornings. There were 7 days suitable for field work during the period. Bandon (Coos and Northern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 41.7 degrees, which is 5.19 degrees above the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 68.78 degrees, 0.14 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.0 inches which is 0.34 inches below the 5-year average for the week. Weather year 2011 (began 10/1/2010) precipitation stands at 53.39 inches, 3.0 inches below the 5-year average. Historical average precipitation through the month of September is 60.4 inches. Brookings (Southern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 47.71 degrees, 1.25 degrees below the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 73.1 degrees, 0.85 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.01 inches, compared to a 5-year average of 0.75 inches. Weather year 2011 (began 10/1/2010) precipitation stands at 89.63 inches, 6.46 inches above the 5-year average. Historical average precipitation through September is 73.48 inches.

DOUGLAS: This week had cooled off with daytime highs mostly in the 70's. Warmer temperatures were needed to help late tree fruit, nuts, and vineyard crops to mature. Wine grapes were just passing veraison, which indicates a need for another 5-6 weeks of berry development. Wine grapes were about three weeks later in developing than usual. Apples, pears, and filberts were also about three weeks behind. Expecting a warm October for crops to mature can be risky and disappointing to producers. Apple, pear, and filbert crops were all expected to be larger than the past few years making the need for continued heat in September and early October very important. Irrigation was still running hard in all vegetable, nursery, orchard, and vineyard locations.

JACKSON: With the continued dry weather, grain crops were now about all harvested. There was still lots of second cutting grass hay, and third cuttings of alfalfa. Some ground preparation was being done for fall grain crop plantings, but the soil was really quite dry so most were not seeding yet. Pear

harvest was still quite busy as the different varieties get to the right stage for picking. Early apples were being harvested. Still some wild blackberries were being picked. The long dry spell has taken its toll on them. Vegetable harvest got busy this week, with lots of good vegetables at road side stands, and local farmers markets. Greenhouses still busy getting fall vegetable and decorative starts ready, and out for sale. Nurseries busy with plant care, with lots of need for irrigating. Livestock on good irrigated pastures looked quite good. Some animals were on dry ground with dead, dry forage, they look ok, but some with supplemental feeding. It was taking lots of irrigation to keep the forage green and growing. This week was a repeat of last week until mid week. We then had some cooling and some clouds, but with little or no rain for most of the Valley. Crop harvesting and ground preparation was the busy work for most.

JOSEPHINE: Night time temperatures were 38 - 50 degrees, and day time temperatures were 60 - 85 degrees. There were two days of overcast and one morning with dew. Smoke had dissipated from the Valley. Harvesting continued, but slowing down with cooler nights. Common activities for the week consisted of winterizing, pulling hoses, preparing beds, and lots of watering. Harvests were down in our area for truck gardens. Vineyards report exceptional crop with no rain and ripening weather.

LANE: Apples were ripening, and peaches were about done. It looked like plums will have a short crop. Nuts appeared to be down for Lane County, but time will tell for sure. Blueberries were mostly done, finishing with a huge crop. Currants and gooseberries looked to have a nice crop. Blackberries continued doing well. Spotted Wing Drosophila was showing up. Some vegetables were doing great, while others were struggling. Weather was slowing crops down. Watch out for tomato late blight. Powdery mildew on grapes had looked pretty bad so far.

WASHINGTON: Red clover harvest continued and some grass seed has been planted. Field corn ears were filling, and haying nearly finished. Some lowland grains still to be combined. This week's cool weather didn't help ripening wine grapes; some may not even be harvested. Blackberries and blueberries continued to produce. Filberts were beginning to drop on well prepared surfaces. Walnuts were sizing and appeared to be plentiful. Sweet corn harvest was ongoing, warm week helped it mature. Potatoes were being harvested. Greenhouse and nursery crops were ready for fall planting. Livestock were still in good shape. High temperature of 78.6 degrees, and a low of 48.6 degrees. Light showers Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday.

YAMHILL: Plum harvest continued. Apple harvest was underway. Some late season spider mite infestations were showing up.

Eastern Oregon

CROOK/DESCHUTES/JEFFERSON: Wheat harvest was nearing completion. Last cutting hay was underway. Carrots and garlic were being planted after wheat harvest. It is certainly a race against time for grapes to ripen; we will need a long fall. One or two mornings frosted this week, how hard depended upon what area in the three counties of central Oregon.

HARNEY: A few small scattered storms throughout the County, with some precipitation. Approximately a 2000 acre fire occurred in the southeast part of the County, around the 15th and 16th of September. The evenings have started to cool off and the day temperatures continued to be hot, around the high 80's.

MALHEUR: High and low temperatures were still about 10 degrees above normal for most of the week with highs around 90 degrees and lows around 60 degrees. Scattered showers at the end of the week lowered temperatures about 10 degrees and brought about one tenth of an inch of rain depending on location. Harvesting, irrigating and fall field work were the

main occupations this week. Generally harvest was still about two weeks late for most crops because of the cool, wet spring.

UMATILLA: Warm temperatures during the week were seen with cooler evening temperatures. Current season crops that haven't been harvested yet were growing well and moving further towards maturity. The eastern portion of the County experienced a shot of rain Thursday morning that will help fall planted wheat. Many farmers report that they have ideal soil moisture for planting right now. Field work across the County had been slow this week with farmers and ranchers in town enjoying the annual Pendleton Round-Up.

WALLOWA: Cooler temperatures helped the fire situation this week. We also received some welcomed moisture towards the end of the week. Grain yields were good to great for the dryland farms in Leap and Flora. Hay yields continued to be very good for most of the County. Temperatures were forecasted to rise again next week but not as high as a couple of weeks ago. Fall seeding will be getting underway soon.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: September 18, 2011 (as of 11:00 am) ¹

Station	Air temperature ²				Growing degree days ³		Last week precip. ⁴			Season cum. precipitation ⁵			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN ⁶	Total	DFN ⁶	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Days ⁷	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Pct. normal	Days ⁷
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria	49	68	59	+1	64	+4	1.66	0.99	4	84.48	16.55	124	232
Bandon ⁸	42	69	57	+0	53	-1	-	-0.38	-	55.19	-4.61	92	207
Crescent City	47	65	58	-1	56	-4	-	-0.39	-	64.87	-1.24	98	163
Florence	41	71	58	-2	58	-12	0.02	-0.54	1	80.63	2.90	104	209
North Bend	46	70	59	+0	64	+1	-	-0.41	-	47.98	-16.27	75	150
Tillamook	48	70	60	+3	71	+16	0.86	-0.02	3	81.46	-9.16	90	206
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	46	77	62	+0	85	+2	0.09	-0.33	4	51.43	9.39	122	200
Corvallis	41	80	62	+0	85	+2	-	-0.35	-	45.84	2.32	105	194
Detroit Lake ⁸	47	82	63	+8	94	+46	-	-0.52	-	99.47	30.69	145	204
Eugene	42	82	64	+2	99	+7	-	-0.40	-	39.90	-10.42	79	156
Hillsboro	45	77	61	+0	76	-1	0.08	-0.27	2	39.87	1.45	104	183
McMinnville	45	78	63	+2	94	+11	0.24	-0.14	3	44.73	0.67	102	179
Portland	53	76	63	-2	90	-5	0.21	-0.21	3	47.63	10.30	128	186
Salem	47	79	63	+2	96	+13	-	-0.35	-	47.78	7.79	119	171
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	46	92	65	+1	109	+3	-	-0.21	-	41.92	10.45	133	151
Medford	47	94	69	+4	135	+25	-	-0.21	-	21.92	2.56	113	115
Roseburg	45	85	66	+3	113	+16	-	-0.28	-	38.39	5.00	115	163
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	41	94	65	+8	107	+51	-	-0.16	-	17.91	3.37	123	139
Echo ⁸	51	94	69	+6	133	+40	0.04	-0.06	1	12.67	3.39	137	121
Heppner	44	94	67	+7	117	+39	0.03	-0.18	2	18.60	4.23	129	131
Hermiston	44	95	67	+5	119	+26	0.03	-0.07	1	13.08	3.80	141	116
Madras ⁸	41	93	64	+6	102	+36	-	-0.14	-	11.33	0.55	105	114
Moro	44	96	65	+6	108	+40	-	-0.14	-	15.09	3.61	131	104
Parkdale ⁸	45	89	61	+2	79	+6	0.06	-0.22	1	46.44	14.96	148	174
Pendleton	47	94	67	+5	119	+25	0.02	-0.12	1	17.80	5.43	144	130
Prairie City ⁸	41	93	64	+6	102	+36	-	-0.14	-	11.33	0.55	105	114
The Dalles	51	87	68	+9	128	+57	0.02	-0.12	1	15.10	2.23	117	116
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	28	84	56	+2	45	+3	0.04	-0.10	1	17.60	1.04	106	108
Bend	37	90	63	+9	96	+50	-	-0.13	-	7.80	-4.25	65	54
Burns	29	86	60	+6	72	+29	-	-0.14	-	15.18	4.86	147	124
Christmas Valley ⁸	29	86	58	-2	58	-10	-	-0.13	-	10.16	-2.56	80	128
Klamath Falls	33	86	60	+1	70	+2	-	-0.10	-	10.58	-3.23	77	84
Klamath Falls ⁸	34	84	60	+1	69	+1	-	-0.10	-	13.26	-0.55	96	114
Lakeview ⁸	30	82	57	-1	52	-5	0.03	-0.11	2	15.90	-0.08	99	130
Lorella ⁸	29	85	58	-2	59	-9	0.02	-0.08	1	13.71	-0.10	99	116
Redmond	31	92	61	+4	77	+22	-	-0.07	-	11.58	2.72	131	91
Worden ⁸	29	86	57	-3	51	-17	0.02	-0.08	1	12.88	-0.93	93	102
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	32	90	60	+4	73	+17	-	-0.17	-	13.22	1.85	116	126
Joseph	36	87	63	+11	92	+59	0.02	-0.30	1	16.28	-9.33	64	135
La Grande	37	93	63	+4	91	+19	0.01	-0.20	1	17.98	-0.03	100	139
Imbler ⁸	40	93	63	+5	90	+30	0.03	-0.24	1	22.00	-2.03	92	152
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	49	90	69	+6	133	+40	0.14	0.00	1	12.20	2.16	122	100
Rome	35	87	63	+5	95	+23	0.05	-0.09	2	14.50	5.86	168	106

¹ Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2011: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

² Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

³ Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit.

⁴ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

⁵ Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2011.

⁶ DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normal period).

⁷ Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

⁸ Agri-Met weather stations.